TEXAS - LOUISIANA PETROLEUM RECORD AND

Oil Investors' Journal

THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH CONCERNING THE BEAUMONT FIELD AND OTHER SOUTHWESTERN OIL FIELDS.

Single Copies 10c.

VOL. 4. SEMI-MONTHLY

BEAUMONT, TEXAS, U. S. A., JULY 18, 1905.

NO. 4 TWO DOLLARS A YEAR

KANSAS-GULF PIPE LINE.

Results of Preliminary Tests of Production Will Probably Determine Whether or Not It Will Be Built—Plan Involves the Construction of a Line From Chanute to Port Arthur, a Distance of 650 Miles—Entire Outlay Would Be in the Neighborhood of $7,000,000—Mellons of Pittsburg, Who Are Heavily Interested in Texas Oil Are Reputed to Be the Financial Backers of the Enterprise.

An investigation of the report that preliminary steps are being taken toward the construction of a pipe line from Kansas to Port Arthur, Texas, reveals confirmatory information that would indicate that the line will be built if sufficient Kansas and Indian Territory production can be obtained to justify its construction.

Representatives of the gentlemen who have agreed to finance the enterprise have been in Kansas and Indian Territory for some weeks, taking options on property and testing wells with a view to ascertaining the exact amount of production that each property will yield. It is understood that the options extend until the early part of August. Whether or not they will be exercised and whether or not the production already optioned will come up to the requirements depends entirely upon the tests.

Before the middle of August it is probable that a definite statement may be forthcoming as to the result of the tests. It is stated that the backers of the pipe line proposition require not less than 10,000 barrels a day of production before they will go ahead with the project.

The importance of the Kansas-to-the-Gulf pipe line to this section can hardly be overstated. If it is built it will mean that the light oil of Kansas and the Territories will be treated at a South-east Texas refinery, which is already handling about 10,000 barrels of crude. Some of the products obtained from the Kansas-Territory crude are not obtainable in like quantity from the South-east Texas crude, and vice versa. Undoubtedly the treating of Kansas oil would necessitate additions to the refinery and an increase of its capacity. It would also make South-east Texas more important as a refining center.

According to the best information, the Mellons of Pittsburg, Pa., who are largely interested in the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company and Gulf Refining Company, both Texas corporations, are the financial backers of the proposed line. Their companies are doing the largest oil business in Texas. The Guffey Company produces and pipes oil and the Gulf Company refines it at Port Arthur, 18 miles south of Beaumont. The refinery is rated one of the largest independent works in the country. It handles about 10,000 barrels of crude a day, and makes all the products of South-east Texas crude—kerosene, gasoline, lubricating oils, spindle oils, asphalt oil and asphaltum, solar and gas oils.

In the last eighteen months the Gulf Company has installed stations throughout Texas, Louisiana and Florida, and in other Southern states, and is reaching out for the Eastern markets at Boston, New York, Pittsburg and other points. With the lighter oils of Kansas and the Territories available for making certain products in place of the heavier Texas crude it would be in a stronger position to compete for the various markets.

While no authoritative statement is made is to details of the proposed line, it is said that the basis of its construction would be 10,000 barrels a day of production, to be put into the company in return for $200 a barrel cash and $200 a barrel in stock of the corporation. This would require an immediate cash outlay of $2,000,000. It is estimated that a six-inch line from Chanute, Kansas to Port Arthur, a distance of 650 miles, would cost about $5,000,000. It may be seen therefore, that to carry out the deal along the lines mapped out would cost probably $7,000,000.

George L. Craig, formerly manager of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Com-

PARKER PATENT ROTARY

BEATS THEM ALL.

SNOW STEAM PUMPS
LEIDECKER DRILLING TOOLS
LINE PIPE, TUBING
SMITH VAILE MUD PUMPS
UNITED STATES ENGINES
SUCKER ROD SUPPLIES

EVERYTHING NEEDED ABOUT AN OIL WELL

Southern Car Manufacturing and Supply Co.

BEAUMONT, TEXAS.

pany, is in charge of the preliminary work in Kansas and the Territories. He has with him a force of gaugers and title experts, some of whom went with him from Pittsburg.

The Standard Oil Company, which is practically the only buyer of Kansas and Territory oil at present, is operating its 471 mile line from Kansas City to Whiting, Ind., through which it will take from 15,000 to 18,000 barrels a day of Western crude to its big refinery near Chicago.

HUMBLE AND THE OLDER FIELDS STILL MAINTAINING HIGH AVERAGE.

For the first two weeks in July Humble produced on an average of 106,000 barrels of oil per day. During the same period of time sixteen wells have been completed. On July 15th forty-four wells were drilling and twelve rigs are up on new locations. Stocks on hand July 15th estimated at 7,400,000 barrels.

Batson.

On July 15th Batson was producing 12,500 barrels a day which is close to the average daily production for the entire month of June. One well has been completed during the first half of the present month and five are drilling. No new rigs have been put up during the above period. Stocks estimated at 400,000 barrels.

Saratoga.

On July 15th Sour Lake was producing 8,300 barrels which show a slight decline on the average daily production for the month of June. Two wells have been completed during the first half of July and five drilling on July 15. Stocks on hand estimated at 225,000 barrels.

Sour Lake.

For the first two weeks in July, Sour Lake has maintained its average production for the month of June and on July 15th was making about 8,000 barrels a day. One well has been completed and two drilling. Estimated stocks 1,230,000 barrels.

SPINDLE TOP DEVELOPMENT.

The principal feature in the situation at Spindle Top is the Andrews and Burrows No. 1 west of the T. and N. O. Railroad. Bailing has been going on for two days with favorable indications.

The estimated gross production of the field on July 15 was 4,500 barrels, which represents about the average daily yield for the first two weeks in July.

Derrick is up on Andrews No. 2 about 200 yards northwest of No. 1.

San Jacinto well No. 1 is pumping, and No. 2 is drilling at a little over 100 feet.

Maxwell is bailing out, having sanded up.

The Southern Oil Company well on the McFaddin farm is down between 900 and 1,000 feet in rock.

Gordon and Nelson wells Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are pumping.

Wm. Meagher, of Lake Charles, has leased Blocks 27, 28 and 29 on Spindle Top, from the Higgins Company. Under the terms of the contract, Mr. Meagher is to receive seventy-five per cent of all developments, the balance going to the Higgins Company.

CUT CRUDE PRICES.

Reductions Are Posted All Along the Line.

On July 12th the Texas Company reduced its quotations all along the line to the following:

Batson	21 cents
Saratoga	22 cents
Humble	13 cents
Sour Lake unchanged at	28 cents

On July 13th the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company posted a reduction on all quotations as follows:

Humble	13 cents
Batson (light)	26 cents
Batson (heavy)	20 cents
Saratoga	22 cents
Sour Lake	28 cents
Spindle Top	30 cents

JENNINGS SUMMARY.

Reports from Jennings on July 12th indicate a gross production in that field of 38,350 barrels, summarized as follows:

Producers No. 1	800 barrels
Producers No. 2	2,000 barrels
Sharp No's 1 and 5	3,000 barrels
Morse Oil Co	2,000 barrels
Crowley O. & M. Co No. 5	150 barrels
Crowley O. & M. Co. No. 12	2,000 barrels
Crowley O. & M. Co. No. 15	2,500 barrels
Heywood Oil Co. No. 2	2,000 barrels
Heywood Oil Co. No. 1	8,000 barrels
Carnes R. and R. No. 3	1,500 barrels
Schultz No. 2	2,000 barrels
Flynn No. 1	3,000 barrels
Wilkins No. 2	4,000 barrels
Wilkins No. 1	750 barrels
Teeter No. 2	150 barrels
Clernich Tract	1,000 barrels
Various pumpers	1,500 barrels
Total daily production	38,350 barrels

Three oil steamers, the Northtown, Northwest and Northman, owned by the Northwestern Steamship Company, of Chicago, have been sold to the Texas Company. Each vessel has a capacity of 22,000 barrels, and until purchased by the Texas Company, had been under lease to the Standard Oil Company.

DEVELOPMENTS AT CADDO FIELD WEST LIBERTY AND OTHER POINTS.

The Caddo Oil & Pipe Line Company, No. 1, well or the original Savage & Morricle well, which for some time past has been pumping, producing about 5 barrels a day of light gravity oil, is now being drilled deeper and said to be showing oil.

Producers No. 3, in which they had lost some of their tools, has been gotten into shape, the lost tools being recovered and are now drilling at a depth of about 960 feet.

The two wells of interest during the past two weeks have been the Citizens Oil & Pipe Line Company and the Brown & Savage No. 1.

The Citizens Oil & Pipe Line Company is located about 50 feet west of Producers No. 1 which is a gas well, and down about 1050 feet. It was bailed on the 8th and developed salt water and gas. The flow was so strong that the crown block on top of the derrick was blown off and the well flowed for several days a heavy stream of salt water and gas 50 feet above the top of the derrick. Later the gate valve was closed and an elbow placed so as to turn the flow in a horizontal direction. After flowing for a day or two in this way the salt water ceased to show itself and the well is making pure gas.

The Brown & Savage No. 1 well is down 1470 feet, showing considerable oil and gas at this depth, but when they attempted to test it, it began to gas and being afraid of ruining the hole, they shut it in. When opened later salt water filled the hole, with just a slight trace of oil.

The Shreveport Petroleum Company well No. 1 is down about 1200 feet and showed up about the same as the Citizens No. 1 and Brown & Savage flowing salt water with a strong gas pressure.

Gas Wells.

The Producers No. 1 is still producing fuel gas for the field.

Producers No. 2, which was a ruined hole and which was set on fire some weeks ago, is still burning. Steam is rising from the water which surrounds the place for a radius of 300 feet and the waves are said to be like the surf on the sea shore, great volumes of muddy water being continually thrown up in the center to a height of 10 to 20 feet. This upheaval is perhaps 50 feet across and from this mass the flames arise for an additional height of 20 to 30 feet.

The following wells are shut down:

The Louisiana-Texas well in the south-east corner of Section 1, the old No. 2 well in the field. Work on this well had been abandoned for some months but was recently resumed and an attempt made to test it from the 1800 foot strata. After having reamed down and set a 4-inch casing it was bailed but showed only a slight trace of oil. It looks as if this is a dry hole at the present depth, something over 1,800 feet. The owners are undecided whether to abandon the hole or drill deeper.

The Libby well has been rigged up and ready for operation for 10 days, but on actual drilling has been done. It is reported that work will commence some time next week.

WEST LIBERTY.

July 15th the following wells were drilling:

Paraffine No. 4, located near the south-west corner of Section 119; drilling at a depth of 1025 feet in a white shale formation with no show of oil or gas.

Beatty well on the McLeod farm, Section 118; depth 850 feet. At 700 feet this well had a little show of oil.

Sun Company No. 1, in Section 119, a little south-west of Paraffine No. 4, depth 900 feet. No show of oil or gas have been encountered up to this depth.

Sun Company No. 2, the north-west corner of Section 125, had just started drilling.

Paraffine-Higgins No. 1 well on the Haggerty league about a mile and quarter north-west of other developments in the west Liberty field, is down about 800 feet with a small show of oil.

The following rigs are up:

Texas Company have rig up in Section 118 a little south-west of the Paraffine No. 4 and Sun Company No. 1 wells. The Port Vernon Oil Company have a rig up on Section 118 due west of the Texas Company location.

The Security Company have purchased site or their pump station out of the McGowan tract and are at work on its construction.

BLUE RIDGE.

No work has been done the past two weeks at Blue Ridge. The well of the Blue Ridge Oil & Development Company is still shut down, the company being undecided whether to abandon the hole or drill deeper.

PIERCE JUNCTION.

At Pierce Junction, Howard Hughes is still drilling on his well, but so far has developed nothing.

DAVIS HILL.

All work at Davis Hill is temporarily suspended. Johnson, Waldron & Lesterjette have their second well down about 500 feet, but have stopped work, pending the settlement of of questions relative to the title to the land.

ANSE LA BUTTE, LA.

In this field there are three wells drilling:

Moresi No. 4, on the Pourciaux lease, at a depth of 800 feet, encountered a good show of oil, but have decided to drill deeper.

Heywood No. 7, on the Pourciaux lease, is temporarily shut down at a depth of about 1,700 feet.

Martin & Company, on the Martin farm, is down between 1,100 and 1,200 feet, with a good show of oil.

PROPOSED CONTRACT BETWEEN TEXAS COMPANY AND I. & G. N. IS DISAPPROVED—NEW MOVE TAKEN.

The Railroad Commission of Texas has disapproved the contract between the Texas Company and the International and Great Northern Railroad under the terms of which there was a joint service on all oil shipped by the Texas Company from Humble to Houston and then hauled to points on the line of the railroad company.

The agreement proposed to allow the Texas Company two cents on each 100 pounds of oil in car loads, out of rates applying from Humble to points on the I. & G. N., and its connecting lines when delivered to the railroad at its yards in Houston. The division would amount to about 6 1-4 cents per barrel.

Following is the reply of the Railroad Commission:

Office of
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS.
Austin, Texas, July 7, 1905.

In the matter of an application filed on the 26th day of June, 1905, with the Railroad Commission of Texas by the Texas Company, praying for approval by this Commission of a certain contract or agreement between said Texas Company and the International & Great Northern Railroad Company, of date the———day of February, 1905, covering the transportation, by said railroad company, of car load quantities of oil originating at the Humble oil fields, handled through the pipe line of said Texas Company to Houston and destined to points on the line of road of said railroad company and its connections, and by the terms of which said contract or agreemnt the said Texas Company is to receive a division of rates on such shipments of oil, and said contract or agreement further provides that the same shall become effective only upon the same being approved by this Commission, and the said application and contract having been duly considered by this Commission, it is hereby ordered by the Railroad Commission of Texas that said application be and the same is hereby refused and said contract or agreement disapproved.

Attest: L. J. STORY, Chm.,
(seal.) ALLISON MAYFIELD,
O. B. COLQUITT,
Commissioners.

E. R. McLean, Secretary.

"I do not believe in making rates through private contracts, as in this case."—O. B. Colquitt.

Following the refusal of the Railroad Commission to approve the contract, as above stated, General Freight Agent G. H. Turner of the International and Great Northern Railroad filed an application with the commissioners to equalize the pipe line charges at Humble and Houston, by granting the company authority to absorb the difference between the pipe line charge to the loading racks at Humble and that to the loading racks of the company at Houston, as follows:

"Five cents per barrel, when destined to points to which the rates from Humble and Houston are the same or when the rate from Humble is lower. When the rate from Houston is lower than from Humble to absorb only so much of said difference of five cents per barrel as will equalize the total charges from the two points."

The Railroad Commission has designated August 15th as the date for formal hearing on the application.

T. AND N. O. DEFENDANT IN SUIT FOR HEAVY DAMAGES.

Alleged damages and penalties to the extent of $108,730.20 is the basis of a suit brought in the district court against the T. and N. O. Railroad by the H. S. Boykin Lumber Company.

The action dates back to 1903, when Sour Lake was at its zenith.

According to the allegations in the petition, the defendant company, being a large owner in the stock of the Rio Bravo Oil Company, discriminated in making deliveries of lumber to the plaintiff in favor of the Rio Bravo Oil Company, for which a penalty of $35,500 is asked.

It is also alleged in the petition that the defendant violated the statutes and the orders of the Railroad Commission in preferring one commodity, oil, in preference to another, lumber, thereby incurring penalties in the sum of $25,500.

The balance of the entire amount of damages asked, is made up on alleged delays in deliveries of lumber consigned to Sour Lake by the plaintiff.

Truth is mighty, but not always strong enough to keep you from being called a "knocker."

GROSS RECEIPTS TAX LAW AND OPINIONS RENDERED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The Gross Receipts Tax Law, commonly known as the Kennedy bill, enacted at the recent session of the Texas state legislature, while not out of the hands of the state printer, those sections relative to the oil industry, are produced in this issue of the Journal. They are of vital import and interest to the oil business in its various branches.

In addition to extracts above mentioned the official reply of Attorney General R. V. Davidson, in response to inquiries concerning construction to be placed on different points of the law, is also produced.

Following are the sections above referred to:

An Act providing for the levy and collection of a tax upon individuals, firms, joint stock associations, corporations and other persons owning, operating, managing or controlling for profit within this state the business of express companies, sleeping car, palace car and dining car companies, or either; telegraph companies, telephone companies; surety and guaranty companies; collecting and commercial agencies or either; gas, electric light, electric power and water works companies, ice plants, or either; exchanges or dealing in futures in agricultural products, articles of commerce, corporation stocks, or other articles or commodities; wholesale dealers in coal oil, naphtha, benzine, mineral oils refined from petroleum, or either, and any and all mineral oils; publishing, printing and selling school text books or law books, or either; companies owning, leasing or hiring any kind of cars to railroad companies, or other persons; pipe line companies, oil producers or oil producing companies, and all persons engaging in any of said businesses; providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of this Act, and repealing all laws in conflict herewith.

Section 9.

Each and every person, association of persons or corporation created by the laws of this or any other State, or nation, which shall engage in their own name, or in the name of others, or in the name of their representatives or agents, in this State, in the wholesale business of coal oil, naphtha, benzine or any other mineral oils refined from petroleum, and any and all mineral oils, shall pay an annual tax of two percent upon their gross receipts from any and all sales in this State of any of said articles in section 9 of this Act hereinabove mentioned, and an annual tax of two per cent of the cash market value of any and all of said articles that may be received or possessed or handled or disposed of in any manner other than by sale in this State; and it is hereby expressly provided that delivery to or possession by any person, association of persons or corporation in this State of any of the articles hereinabove mentioned in section 9 of this Act, from whatever source the same may have been received, shall for the purpose of this Act be held and considered such a sale and such ownership and possession of such articles and property (where no sale is made) as will and shall subject the same to the tax herein provided for. Said tax herein provided for shall be paid to the State Treasurer quarterly, and every such person, agent, association of persons, or corporation so owning, controlling or managing such business shall, on or before the first day of April, and quarterly thereafter, report to the Comptroller under oath of the president, treasurer, superintendent, or some other officer of said corporation or association, or agent duly authorized agent thereof, the amount received by them from such business in this State. Should any person, association of persons or corporation, or the officers or agents of any such corporation, person or association of persons herein named, fail to make the report herein provided for, and pay said taxes for thirty days after the termination of any quarter of the year, then he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be confined in any sum not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars. Each and every day after said thirty days have expired shall be deemed a separate offense. In addition thereto, in the event of the failure of the officers or agents of any such company or corporation to make the reports and pay said taxes, for thirty days after the termination of any quarter of the year, each and every such company or corporation, or their officers or agents so failing, shall forfeit and pay to the State the sum of twenty-five dollars for each day said report and payment are delayed, which forfeiture and taxes shall be sued for by the Attorney General, in the name of the State. For the purpose of suits and prosecutions provided for in this Article, venue and jurisdiction are hereby expressly conferred upon the courts of Travis county, and service may be had upon any officer or agent of such company or corporation in this State, and such service shall in all respects be held legal and valid. The tax herein levied shall be in addition to all other taxes levied by law.

Section 11.

Every person, firm, joint stock association or corporation owning stock cars, refrigerator and fruit cars of any kind, tank cars of any kind, coal cars of any kind, furniture cars, or common box and flat cars, and leasing, renting, operating, hiring or charging mileage for the use of such cars, shall, on or before the first day of April, and quarterly thereafter, through its superintendent or other chief officer, or authorized agent, file with the Comptroller of Public Accounts a report, under oath, showing the amount of gross receipts from such rentals or mileage, or other sources of revenue, for the preceding three months, and shall pay a tax of two per cent on their gross receipts from all rentals or mileage, or other sources of revenue received from any railway companies or other persons, or from all other sources, within this State; provided, this shall not apply to the mileage and perdiem paid by one railway company to another railway company within this State for the use of such cars. Said tax herein levied shall be paid to the State Treasurer quarterly. If any person, firm, joint stock association or corporation, shall fail to make the report and pay the tax as above provided, for thirty days after the termination of the quarter of the year, each and every such person, firm, joint stock association or corporation so failing shall forfeit and pay to the State twenty-five dollars for each day said report and payment are delayed, which forfeiture and tax shall be sued for by the Attorney General, in the name of the State. And it is hereby provided that the cars or property of any such person, firm, joint stock association or corporation shall be subject to seizure and sale whenever found in this State, to pay the taxes, penalties and costs that my accrue under this article; provided: that upon the request of the Comptroller each railroad company in the State of Texas shall forthwith and within not more than thirty (30) days after such request shall have been made, report to said Comptroller under oath the amounts paid by it for the use of cars of the kind mentioned in this section within such period as the Comptroller shall have fixed and to what companies, associations or individuals the same was paid and the amount paid to each and the dates and particulars of such payments, and if any railroad shall fail to make any report as herein provided it shall forfeit and pay to the State twenty-five (25) dollars for each and every day during which said report is delayed, which shall be sued for by the Attorney General in the name of the State. For the purpose of suits provided for herein venue and jurisdiction are hereby expressly conferred upon the courts of Travis county, and service may be had upon any officer or agent of any such person, firm, company or corporation within this State, and if no officer or agent can be found within this state, service may be had by citation by publication, and such service shall in all respects be held legal and valid. The tax provided for in this article shall be in addition to all other taxes levied by law.

Section 12.

Every individual, joint stock association, company, co-partnership or corporation, whether incorporated under the laws of this State or of any other State, Territory, or of the United States, or of any foreign nation, which owns or operates a pipe line or lines within the State of Texas, whether such pipe lines be used for the transmission of oil, natural or artificial gas, whether the same be for illuminating or fuel purposes or for any other purpose, or for steam, for heat or power, or for the transmission of articles by pneumatic or other power, shall be deemed and held to be a pipe line company; and every such pipe line company shall, on or before the first day of April of each and every year, and quarterly thereafter, through its superintendent, president, secretary or other authorized agent, file with the Comptroller a report, under oath, showing the amount of gross receipts from charges and freights within this State, paid to or uncollected by such pipe line company on account of any business transacted by it in the capacity of a pipe line company as herein defined during the three months next preceding; and each pipe line company engaged in conveying oil shall report as a part of its gross receipts such sum as it would have been compelled to pay for conveying oil owned by it and conveyed for itself, if it had employed some other pipe line company to convey it. Said pipe line companies, at the time of filing the required

report, shall pay to the Treasurer of the State of Texas two per cent on the gross receipts as shown by said reports. The receipt of the Treasurer of the State shall be evidence of the payment of such taxes. Should any person, association of persons, the officers or agents of any such person, association of persons or corporations herein named, fail to make the report provided for in this Section, for more than thirty days after the termination of any quarter of the year, then he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than fifty dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars. Each day after said thirty days have expired shall be deemed a separate offense; and in addition thereto, in the event of the failure of the officers or agents of any such company or corporation to make such report and pay said tax for thirty days after the termination of any quarter of the year, each and every such company or corporation so failing shall forfeit and pay to the State of Texas twenty-five dollars for each day said report and payment are delayed, which forfeiture shall be sued for by the Attorney General, in the name of the State. For the purpose of suits and prosecutions provided for herein, venue and jurisdiction are hereby conferred upon the courts of Travis county, and service may be had upon any officer or agent of such company or corporation within this State, and such service shall in all respects be held legal and valid. The tax provided for in this Article shall be in addition to all other taxes levied, but the provisions of this section shall not be construed to levy an additional tax on gas companies, as provided for elsewhere in this Act.

Section 13.

Every individual, joint stock company, co-partnership or corporation, whether incorporated under the laws of this state or any State or Territory of the United States or of any foreign country, which owns, controls, manages or leases any oil well within this State, shall, on or before the first day of April of each and every year, and quarterly there after, through its superintendent, president, secretary or other authorized agent, or in person or by agent (if said well belongs to or is managed or controlled by any individual), file with the Comptroller a report under oath, showing the total amount of all oil produced by each of said parties during said next preceding quarter, and also its market value. Said oil well companies or individuals owning, controlling or managing oil wells, at the time of filing the required report, shall pay to the Treasurer of the State of Texas one per cent on the gross product as shown by said reports, said amount in money to be fixed at the average market value of said product during the preceding quarter. The receipt of the Treasurer of the State shall be evidence of the payment of such taxes. Should any person, association of persons, the officers or agents of any such persons, associations of persons or corporations herein named, fail to make the report provided for in this chapter, for more than thirty days after the termination of any quarter of the year, then he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than fifty dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars. Each day after said thirty days have expired shall be deemed a separate offense. And in addition thereto, in the event of the failure of the officers or agents of any such company or corporation, to make such report and pay said tax for thirty days after the termination of any quarter of the year, each and every such company or corporation so failing shall forfeit and pay to the State of Texas twenty-five dollars for each day said report and payment are delayed, which forfeiture shall be sued for by the Attorney General, in the name of the State. For the purpose of suits and prosecutions provided for herein, venue and jurisdiction are hereby conferred upon the courts of Travis county, and service may be had upon any officer or agent of such company or corporation within this State, and such service shall in all respects be held legal and valid. The tax provided for in this article shall be in addition to all other taxes levied.

Section 14.

Except as herein stated, all taxes levied by this Act shall be in addition to all other taxes now levied by law; provided, that nothing herein shall be construed as authorizing any county or city to levy an occupation tax on the business taxed by this Act.

Following is the reply of the Attorney General to inquiries concerning the law:

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Austin, Texas, July 12, 1905

Hon. J. W. Stephens, Comptroller,
Capitol,

Dear Sir:—

We are in receipt of yours of the 7th enclosing communications from James L. Autry, and Greer, Minor & Miller, in which you ask us to give you an opinion on the questions raised in these letters.

Referring to the letter from James L. Autry, we note that he desires to know if those portions of the Act referring to the taxation of oil concerns goes into effect prior to March, 1906.

You are respectfully advised, with the exception of Section 1 of said bill, the taxes must be paid and the reports made beginning on the 1st day of July, 1905.

Section 1 relating to the express companies requires that the reports so far as they are concerned, shall be made on or before March 1st, 1906, but this provision does not apply to the other sections of the bill.

Referring to the letter from Greer, Minor & Miller, we will take the matter up in the order in which they have propounded the questions.

First: "Do you think Section 9, or any section of this bill applies to the manufacture of refined oil as such?"

You are respectfully advised that it does.

Second: "A number of oil companies in Texas frequently sell and deliver oil to points in Louisiana, or vice versa. They sell oil on board cars at Jennings, Louisiana, to be delivered to customers in Texas. Does the Kennedy Bill purport to impose a tax by reason of such transaction, or can it?—(a) Would not a tax on such transaction be a tax on interstate commerce; (b) does not the Act, by its own terms, limit the scope of the Act to sales consummated in Texas?"

You are respectfully advised that the

Continued on page 9

ONE BY ONE THE HEROES FALL.

John A. Johnson and others have brought suit in the district court at Iola to recover $2,940 from the Webster Refining Company at Humboldt, alleged to be due as the purchase price of crude oil. Further allegation is made that investigation reveals debts against the refining company amounting to $32,000, that the plant is worth $20,000, and that there are mortgages upon the plant to the amount of $12,000, and a receiver is asked for to protect the creditors. Judge Foust announced he would hear the cause on July 10. The day after the Kansas legislature passed the rate bill and the anti-discrimination bill, C. D. Webster wired Governor Hoch that he had shipped a car of refined oil to Emporia at a saving of $50.00, thank God and the Kansas legislature, and he could now make money easily. The result does not seem to bear out the statement and prediction.—Kansas Correspondence, Oil City Derrick.

C. D. Webster, who has been much in the lime-light during the Kansas oil agitation, is known to quite a few Texas oil men. He has received a lot of free advertising in the last year by reason of the fact that his is the only independent refinery in operation in Kansas. When he had been interviewed all over the state and had told the people of the fortune to be made in refining Kansas oil he started a little stock-selling business, indicating his willingness to let the people in on his "good thing." The suit for a receiver shows him up in a new light—not quite so "limey" as he has been posing in for nearly a year past—but more in the order of an X-ray. A good deal might be written about Mr. Webster's exploits in the eastern oil fields—particularly at Marietta, Ohio. The experience of a Beaumont company with him might also be told. In this latter case he leased some tank cars but when it came to producing the money he was a trifle shy and the Beaumont concern had to pay the mileage on the return of the cars from "bleeding Kansas."

The Kansas hot-air agitation cyclone has thrown a good many false alarms into the foreground. Time, which works wonders, will attend to them; and in the course of a few months, or a year, the "heroes" of the great Sunflower oil war will be back in the ranks of the unknown—shorn of their newspaper medals and looking for greener pastures.

Mr. John Porter Hollis, of the bureau of corporations of the department of commerce and labor, who spent some time in Beaumont gathering data relative to the oil industry, is now in Galveston pursuing his work.

Texas-Louisiana Petroleum Record and Oil Investors' Journal

FOURTH YEAR.

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"The Oil Investors' Journal is the title of a semi-monthly published at Beaumont, Texas, that is worthy of its name. It is doing honest and faithful work for the oil producers of Texas and the general public."—From editorial columns Oil City Derrick, April 22, 1908.

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RAILROADS GET EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH TO ANSWER GULF REFINERY.

At the request of the railroads involved in the charges of discrimination in the matter of rates on refined petroleum, brought by the Gulf Refining Company of Port Arthur, Texas, before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington, an extension of twenty days from July 18 in which to file their answer has been granted by Chairman Knapp of the Commission.

The nature of the Gulf Company's petition was fully described in the last number of the Oil Investors Journal. Briefly stated the charges are to the effect that the railroads entering New Orleans from the north make higher rates on shipments of refined oil north bound, out of New Orleans, than are made on shipments south bound into New Orleans from Cincinnati, Chicago and Louisville, from which points the Standard Oil Company and other refineries distribute their products in the Louisiana territory. It is shown in the petition that the rate between St. Louis and New Orleans is the same north-bound and south-bound. The Standard does not ship oil south from St. Louis, hence, it is charged, there is no object in giving sounth-bound shipments out of this city the preference in the matter of rates.

In the case of Chicago, however, from which point the Standard makes heavy shipments—originating at its great refinery at Whiting, Ind., near Chicago—to the New Orleans territory, the south-bound rate is 23 cents per 100 pounds, while the north-bound rate, for the same service, is 41 cents per 100 pounds. With the prevailing difference in rates the Gulf Company finds it practically impossible to make shipments north from New Orleans into Chicago. With equal rates it would be on an equal basis with the Standard, and this is what it hopes to obtain by its petition to the Interstate Commerce Commission.

It is stated that the Standard has no refineries in the South, from which it makes shirments out of New Orleans to northern points, whereas, the Gulf Company's plant is located on the Gulf Coast and to get its products to market in the middle West it is compelled to ship under the north-bound rates.

Inasmuch as the business of refining oil in South-east Texas is growing to proportions that make it one of the most important industries of the new South, and particularly of the Lone Star state, the move made by the Gulf Refining Company is a matter of more than ordinary interest to this section, and the action of the Interstate Commerce Commission will be awaited with eager attention. There is no good reason why the products of Texas refineries should not have an equal show with those of the northern refineries in the markets of the middle West. A revision of the rates, making them the same north bound and south bound between the cities of Cincinnati, Chicago and Louisville, and the city of New Orleans, and lowering the St. Louis rate, must come.

The refineries of South-east Texas are making gasoline and kerosene at the rate of nearly 100,000 barrels a month, or 1,000,000 barrels a year. These products must find a market, and the Gulf Company is the most active of the several companies in building up the market for Texas refinery products. It has established distributing stations all over the South, and is extending its market to the Atlantic coast cities. It is selling Texas refined oil on the streets of Boston, and will soon be selling it in Pittsburg, Pa., the heart of the older oil country.

As the output of the Texas refineries is increased the necessity for new territory in which to market the products becomes apparent. Railroad rates should be the same, north bound and south bound, thus giving the Texas refineries exactly the same opportunity that the northern refiners enjoy to get their products to the consumers of the middle West and middle South.

At all points which may be reached by water transportation from Port Arthur the Texas refineries are independent of railroad rates and are well able to compete with northern products.

This refining business in Texas is no longer a small proposition. The various concerns in and near Beaumont are running from 15,000 to 17,000 barrels a day of crude, from which are obtained not less than 3,000 to 3,500 barrels a day of kerosene and gasoline, to say nothing of the lubricating oils and other products, amounting to as much again.

Texas oil demands a square deal from the railroads.

SHOW UP ALL THE INSURANCE GRAFTERS BY A RIGID PUBLIC INVESTIGATION.

The great awakening has come.

The King of Grafts is tottering on its throne—and all the High Finance Ryans, and all the Rebate-Giving Mortons, and all the Wall Street Favoring Clevelands cannot restore it.

Not even President Roosevelt's personal indorsement of his friend Morton, not even his expressions of confidence in the outcome of the Rebate-Givers' administration of the Equitable can help.

This is no time for grand stand plays, and they don't go—even with the personal indorsement of the president. No one knows better than he how serious this life insurance scandal is, and how far reaching its effects are.

It concerns five millions of policy holders and their families. It puts the Steel Trust and the Ship Building "bust" in the far background—they affected the thousands while the millions looked on and pitied and sneered. But the life insurance graft—

It affects the millions! It touches the whole nation!

Here is Senator Depew, he of the conciliatory speech, the smooth front and the re-assuring interview, drawing $20,000 a year from the Equitable. What for? Not after dinner speeches.

For "legal advice"—in-floo-ence. Graft, of course. What else?

And Elihu Root, former Secretary of War, getting $25,000 a year of the policy-holders' money.

What for? Jimmy Hyde would probably say "Just because"—for that's a woman's reason, and Jimmy looks as if he were about half woman.

Mr. Root sells his professional services—and throws in his in-floo-ence. Or should it be reversed?

Summing up, we have an ex-Secretary of the Navy "steering" the Equitable, an ex-Secretary of War

drawing $25,000 a year from it, a United States Senator sneaking $20,000 a year from it and a president of the United States giving the new "steerer" a "recommend!"

If present day methods of conducting colossal life insurance companies are on the square why have these companies needed the services—which amounts to paid protection—of the most influential men in national politics?

Do the managers of the other big companies expect the people to be satisfied just because control of the one exposed has been apparently shifted from Jimmy Hyde to Tommy Ryan? Do they think confidence has been restored?

Not in ten thousand years.

The Great Awakening is here and the sun light of public investigation must be turned on all the fat grafts. There must be a reform in methods and in management and there must be a square deal for the policy-holders.

KANSAS STATE REFINERY A DEAD ONE.

The Kansas State Refinery scheme is a dead one. A decision of the supreme court of the Sunflower State declares the refinery act unconstitutional because it proposes to make the state a party to a work of internal improvement, which is prohibited by the constitution.

The Kansas City Journal, in commenting on the decision, says that it saves the state just $410,000, which goes a good way toward making up the loss of $547,000 of state funds in the Topeka bank failure. The refinery project, at this distance, looked very much like a balloon when it first rose above the horizon, and Texas observers of events in Kansas are not at all surprised that the supreme court has punctured the wind-bag.

KANSAS NATURAL GAS COMPANY DECISION.

The Kansas supreme court has decided that the Kansas Natural Gas Company, a Delaware corporation, cannot do business in the State. Those who take this to mean that the gas people must pull up stakes and get out of Kansas are jumping at an erroneous conclusion. Anticipating the court's action, the organizers of the gas company prepared for what has happened by forming a Kansas company and obtaining a Kansas charter. The Kansas corporation is taking over the property of the Delaware company and is proceeding with the work of laying pipe. Strong interests in Pittsburg, Pa., are behind the Kansas Natural Gas Company. J. C. McDowell, formerly manager of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company in Texas, is the executive head of the Kansas concern.

THE JOURNAL INVADES THE EAST.

The editor of the Oil Investors Journal is spending the month of July in the East, and will visit the older oil regions of Pennsylvania, and the cities of Pittsburg, New York and Boston before returning to Beaumont about the 25th inst. In his absence the destinies of the Journal are being presided over by Mr. Frank J. Silsbee, who is the authorized representative of the paper.

COMMENT AT RANDOM.

By the Tank-Strapper.

"Tainted money——"
Ain't it funny
How we strive to get a bit!
Cuss the "big 'uns
Call 'em "brigands——"
'Til we get ours—then we quit!

The newspapers report that District Attorney Jerome smoked fourteen cigarettes in an hour. He could get the same effect, save time and keep his fingers clean by using a "hypo," or by taking his "dope" in pills.

Lawson's efforts at speech making would indicate that he is getting in training to stampede the democratic convention in 1908, a la William Jennings Bryan. It would be a great ticket: Lawson and Jerome. Symbols, baked beans and cigarettes.

Persons holding a bunch of nicely tinted and handsomely engraved worthless oil stocks, know the difference between promise and achievement.

Some of those Kansans must be slow in getting their feet into the trough judging from the amount of printers' ink the refinery promoters are using.

Kansas is hot enough usually in the summer time, but think what it must be this year with all the "hot air" mills in operation daily.

Nothing is added to the joy of living to discover that some editors are still writing "Lessons of the Japanese Naval Victory."

As a means to eradicate the fake promoter, why wouldn't it be a good thing to educate the investor?

When the wind and water of some of those trust-busting refineries is turned loose, there will be a great many people who will wish they had spent a little of their cash in building a tornado cellar.

Conditions are never so distressing but what they can be worse. A town in Kansas has a band that is so bad that people make bets as to what tune it is trying to play.

About the proper thing for some of those Kansas legislators (?) who advocated the state refinery proposition to do, would be the introduction of a bill favoring the adoption of the "umbrella tree" as the state insignia. They'll need something better than a "sunflower" to get under when the water starts to come out of those "octopus-eating" refineries.

The Kansas situation must have come up at a recent meeting of the National Educational Association. A delegate read a paper on "Problems that Perplex."

Warden at the insane asylum:—"Where is the patient from?"

Attendant—"From Houston, Texas, sir."

Warden—"What seems to be his trouble?"

Attendant—"Believes that Texas oil is worth $12 a barrel for refining."

Warden—"Place him in the violent ward with a heavy guard."

Even the Kansas editor comes in for his share of tribulation. The story is going the rounds that a country editor was dismissed from church for singing in a loud voice while a hymn was being sung in the following words: "Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball, put down their dollars and subscribe, and we'll receipt for all."

It was a night after a heavy rain storm. The clock on the mantel piece indicated the hour of midnight. Without, on the creepy stillness arose the voice of frogland in nocturnal minstrelsy. The tired housewife tossed in bed in restless animation when her "lord and master" inquired:

"What's the matter, can't you sleep?"

"No, those frogs are making too much noise."

Then came an interval of silence followed by a yawning voice which said:

"I believe I COULD sleep if that big one would only stop."

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A FRIENDLY BOOST FROM KANSAS.

The following from the Kansas Derrick, of June 27, is appreciated:

The Oil Investors Journal, of Beaumont, Texas, in its recent issue prints some interesting pictures of the field in the southern end of the earth. Holland Reavis, the editor of the paper, is a pusher, gets out a rattling good sheet, and the operators, and refiners in that section should give him better support than they apparently do. His reports on the field are very thorough and their reliability has been proven in many ways Recently he has been "perking up" somewhat and the paper is commencing to look like the winner it deserves to be. And, in speaking of this, how many people who are apt to criticise and condemn the publishers of newspapers, and especially trade journals, realize the enormous amount of work necessary to their publication, and the expense involved. And how many would improve on the methods they are so ready to criticise. Under present conditions, there is but little glory and less money in the business, and while publishers are depriving themselves in the attempt to keep their papers up to the standard they have set, a little moral support, oo say nothing of financial aid, goes a long way.

In fairness to the majority of the interests represented in the Texas-Louisiana oil industry, it should be said that they are showing a ready disposition to accord the Journal their support. The paper is trying to do the square thing by the oil industry and this policy is bound to win.

Mr. C. H. Markham, General Manager of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, has announced the appointment, effective July 15th, of Mr. F. C. Proctor as counsel for that company, in connection with Mr. L. A. Carlton with whom Mr. Proctor will be associated in the practice of law. Mr. Proctor represented as counsel two of the Southern Pacific lines, when Mr. Markham had charge of its interests in Texas, and the present appointment is doubtless induced by the desire of Mr. Markham to renew such relations with Mr. Proctor and have the latter's counsel in his present position. Mr. Markham, however, stated that such appointment does not affect the existing relations of Greers, Nall & Neblett as general attorneys to the company.

The Sun Company's 6-inch line from Humble to Sour Lake has not yet been opened.

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Write to A. A. LITTLE, Western Manager, Independence, Kans.

OIL SHIPMENTS FROM THE TEXAS PORTS.

The tabulated report of oil shipments from Port Arthur and Sabine for the first two weeks of July is omitted in this number of the Oil Investors Journal, but the report for the entire month will be published in the August 3 number.

The Security Oil Company on the 14th began construction of a 6-inch pipe line from Batson to Dayton.

Continued from page 5

bill imposes a tax on transactions such as are mentioned above, which, under the constitution, the legislature has the authority to do.

Third: "The caption of the Act purports to impose a tax on individuals, companies, etc., engaged in the business of wholesale dealers in oil, etc. With such caption so limited, can Section 9 go beyond the scope of a real sale, as it is ordinarily understood, and impose a tax upon a person or company who has simply received, possessed, and handled oil otherwise than by sale?"

You are respectfully advised that Section 9 imposes a tax of two percent on the cash market value of any and all articles that may be received or possessed or handled, or disposed of in any manner other than by sale in this State, which, under the Constitution the legislature had the authority to do.

Fourth: "Section 13 of the bill imposes a tax on the producer, that is, the occupation or business of a producer. Part of his occupation is to sell the oil that he has produced. Do you construe that the one percent tax imposed by the Section 13 gives him the right to sell his oil produced, without paying in addition thereto upon the sale of his oil, the two percent tax imposed by Section 9?"

You are respectfully advised that the one percent tax imposed by Section 13 does not give the producer the right to sell his oil produced, without paying in addition thereto, the two percent tax imposed by Section 9.

Fifth: "All oil producers have short pipe lines from their wells to their tanks, and frequently from their tanks to loading racks which are used as agencies for saving and marketing oil. Do you construe that the transportation of oil through such lines is exempt from the operation of Section 12?"

You are respectfully advised that it is not exempt from the tax imposed under Section 12 of the Act. This answers the 6th question.

(Note: The sixth question was this: "Can any producing company or refining company be taxed because of the pipe line services incidental to its business.")

Seventh: "We have a client, to-wit, the Sun Company a foreign corporation that buys oil in Texas and ships it through its pipe line to Port Arthur, Texas, and there loads same on its ships, and ships it to itself in Pennsylvania where it refines the oil and afterwards sells the refined product. (a) Can such pipe line service be taxed under Section 12?"

You are respectfully advised that it can.

"(b) In view both of the caption and provisions of Section 9, can the mere act of shipping oil that the Sun Company purchases in Texas to itself in Pennsylvania, be such a handling, possession or disposition as to subject the Sun Company to a tax on the dealer imposed by the Section 9 of the Act?"

You are respectfully advised that it is, and the tax imposed by Section 9 should be collected.

"(c) Is not this inter-state commerce that the State of Texas could not in any event impose a tax upon?"

You are respectfully advised that it is our opinion that it is not.

Eigath: "The Sun Company also fre-

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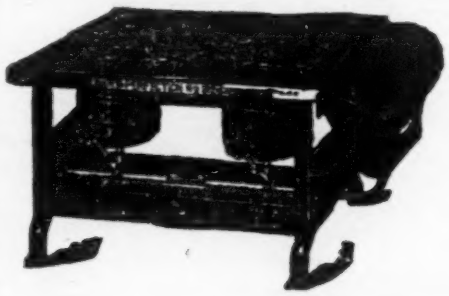

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quently buys oil at Jennings, Louisiana, and ships it around by rail to Gladys, Jefferson county, Texas, and from there transports it by its pipe line to Port Arthur, Texas. Can such transactions, or pipe line service, subject the oil either to tax imposed by Section 9 or Section 12 of the bill?"

You are respectfully advised that on such transactions it is subject to the tax imposed under Section 12 of the Bill, as being a pipe line company, and also under Section 9 as being engaged in the wholesale business of oil, if such is the case.

Yours very truly,
(signed.) R. V. DAVIDSON,
Attorney General.

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The Mound Oil Company of Houston, Texas has been chartered with a capital stock of $300,000, with the purpose of prospecting for oil and other minerals. The incorporators are James Bute, Edwin B. Parker, Jesse Andrews, W. H. Kimbrough, and Craig Belk of Houston; Thomas A. Nevins of East Orange, N. J., and Percy M. Furber of New York. Among the Houston men who are interested in the corporation are T. W. House, Howard Smith, and Judge T. W. Ford. E. B. Parker has been elected president with headquarters at Houston. Forty thousand acres of land, known as the Hoskins-Mound property in Brazoria county, has been purchased by the new concern and prospecting will begin at once. Several wells have been drilled in this locality. Col. Stribling of Spindle Top fame having been interested in one of the wells there.

The Union Iron Works of Houston is the name of a new corporation doing business as general machinists and founders at Batson, Humble and Houston. The new concern is an outgrowth of the Batson Iron Works and also successor to the Smith-Wallis Iron Works of Houston, that plant having been purchased by the new company. Its capital stock is $75,000. Officers as follows: Ben J. Harper, president; Geo. L. Woodard, vice-president; R. W. Jeffreys, secretary; and James P. Finegan, treasurer and general manager. The firm proposes to manufacture and repair all supplies for oil wells and will keep in stock pumps, engines, rotaries and all appliances for drilling. The headquarters of the firm is in Houston.

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VOL. 4. SEMI-MONTHLY | BEAUMONT, TEXAS, U. S. A., AUGUST 3, 1905. | NO. 5 TWO DOLLARS A YEAR

JULY SHOWED A DECLINE

Aggregate Production of Texas-Louisiana Districts on Last Day of the Month Was 141,987 Barrels, Against 183,755 Barrels on June 30—Humble Responsible for the Decrease, the Output of That Field Being 77,600 Barrels, or Nearly 40,000 Less Than the Production a Month Before—Prices Reached Lowest Level Yet Touched, and Recovered After the Fire—Operations in the Various Districts Reviewed.

Circumstances were not favorable to new work in the Texas-Louisiana districts in July; nevertheless, fifty-six wells were completed in the month and production on the 31st amounted to 141,987 barrels, divided among the various fields as follows:

Humble, 77,600; Jennings, 21,880; Batson, 11,760; Sour Lake, 9,210; Saratoga, 7,037, and Spindletop, 4,500 barrels. On June 30 the Humble field was doing 117,410 barrels; Jennings was doing 32,200; Batson, 12,000; Sour Lake, 9,260; Saratoga, 8,285, and Spindletop, 4,600 barrels. The figures indicate a falling off of nearly 40,000 barrels at Humble and a total decline in the aggregate production of all the districts amounting to 41,768 barrels. The decrease in the total output is attributable almost entirely to Humble.

July Output About 2,750,000 Barrels.

While the summary of the Humble field on July 31 showed a production of 77,600 barrels on that day, the statement for the previous day indicated not less than 88,000 barrels, and on August 1 this figure was exceeded by about 3,000 barrels. During the first half of July the Humble district yielded an average of 106,000 to 110,000 barrels a day. The average for the last fifteen days was almost 80,000 barrels, and the average for the month was very close to 95,000 barrels a day. Including some of the roily oil that is being treated and will figure in the stocks of merchantable oil, the July output of the Humble district may be put at a little less than 2,750,000 barrels.

PICTURES of the HUMBLE FIRE ON PAGES 9, 10, 11 and 12

Decline in Field Operations.

Wells were completed in the various districts in July as follows: Humble, 45; Spindletop, 4; Sour Lake, 3; Batson, 2; Saratoga, 1; Jennings, 1. Total, 56. Drilling: Humble, 27; Saratoga, 6; Spindletop, 6; Jennings, 5; Batson, 4; Sour Lake, 1. Total, 49. Dry: Sour Lake, 2. Abandoned: Humble, 3; Sour Lake, 3; Jennings, 1. Total, 7. Rigs up July 31: Humble, 13; Saratoga, 3; Batson, 2; Sour Lake, 1; Spindletop, 1; Jennings, 1. Total, 21.

The record of wells completed shows a decline of 9 compared with June, and of wells drilling, 29, compared with the previous month. The number of rigs up, 21, is one less than the number up on June 30. The decrease in drilling wells may be charged almost entirely to Humble, where 54 wells were drilling on June 30, as compared with 27 drilling on July 31.

Heavy Production Depresses Market.

A continuation of production at the high level noted, resulting in the reduction of crude quotations to the lowest point yet reached, is probably responsible for the falling off in new work. On July 12 and 13 the pipe line companies marked the Humble prices down to 13 cents. During this time some of the smaller concerns in the fuel-oil business quoted Humble oil on cars at 17 1-2 and 18 cents a barrel. On July 21 the Texas Company marked the Humble price up to 14 cents, and on July 25 raised it another cent. The latter quotation was made after the disastrous fire which wiped out about 2,200,000 barrels of oil in the Texas Company's earthen tanks. On July 26 the J. M. Guffey Petroleum

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